

# ASSOCIATION BETWEEN PARENTS VARIABLE ON PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED AND COPING STRATEGIES OF PRIMARY CARETAKERS ATTENDING TO CHILDREN WITH CARDIAC PROBLEMS

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## ABSTRACT

*The present study makes an attempt to understand the Association between parents variable on problems experienced and Coping Strategies of Primary Caretakers Attending to Children with Cardiac Problems. Caretakers who were ready and willing to extend their cooperation for in depth interview were selected as population for the study. Thus a total number of 60 caretakers were selected purposively for conducting the present study. The results revealed that caretakers used both available and non available coping styles. It reflected that, based on problems perceived, caretakers were found to be positively correlated that is, the level of significance is 0.20583\*, 0.28450\*, 0.27857\*, 0.33659\*\* under available coping strategies indulging in Formal Thinking, Judging Quality. In Positive Mode, Instruction and Cooperation, Solution of issues were found to be positively correlated under Formal Thinking, Judging Quality.*

**KEYWORDS:** Problems Experienced, Parents, Coping Strategies & Cardiac Problems

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## INTRODUCTION

Becoming a parent, is one of the most powerful of the human experiences, is often accompanied with feelings of celebration and relief, but it can also be a time of anxiety, and stress. The term “Parenting” is derived from the Latin root *pario*, meaning life-giver, and encompasses much more than just the care giving activities parents perform.

Children represent the future, and ensuring their healthy growth and development ought to be a prime concern of all societies. But the healthy survival of a child is threatened at every moment, because he is vulnerable to various health problems.

Parents and other significant caregivers play an important role in children’s development (Collins, Maccoby, Steinberg, Hetherington, and Bornstein, 2000). There are numerous factors that influence the quality of parenting that children receive (Belsky, 1990).

The family context is an important contributing factor in the socialization of children (Maccoby and Martin, 1983). More specifically, the role of parents in influencing their children’s outcomes has increasingly been the focus of research. What has emerged is the general finding that parents and children influence each other in a

reciprocal manner (Maccoby, 1992).

There are multiple determinants that impact parenting practices (Belsky, 1990), including socioeconomic and maternal factors. For example, Fox, Platz, and Bentley (1995) reported less favorable parenting practices among mothers who were younger, single, from lower income and educational levels, and who had more than one child living at home. Numerous other factors, including marital satisfaction, level of spousal support, and the mental health of the parent can influence child rearing practices (Simons, Beamon, Conger, and Chao, 1993).

## RESEARCH METHODS

60 parents were selected who provides proper association and bond for the present study. The main focus of the study was to provide various alternative strategies for the parents on below 15year old children.

## RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Parents who provide proper association and bond had been selected for the present study that is “Association between parents Variable on problems experienced and Coping Strategies of Primary Caretakers Attending to Children with Cardiac Problems”. Thus a total 60 caretakers were selected purposefully for conducting the present study.

### Description of the Cardiac Problems

- Cardiac illness is the most acute pressure, which any family may experience and it also creates a potential threat equally to both the victim and the caretaker.
- For the patient, the threat involves painful medical procedures, surgeries, and its side effects, and frequent hospitalization.
- Children with a cardiac problem presents special challenges, i.e. it has biological, behavioral, and social manifestations for the child and for the family.
- One can only imagine the increase in stress that takes place when the hopes and dreams of the “perfect” pregnancy, labor, and delivery are shattered with the revelation of a heart disease, and the grieving process that ensues as parents cope with the challenges of having an infant with heart disease.
- Chronic illness is defined as physical or mental condition, that affect the daily functioning of individuals for a longer period than three months to one year, or hospitalization longer than one month.

## ASSOCIATION BETWEEN PARENTS VARIABLE ON PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED AND COPING STRATEGIES

Table 1

Available Coping		Non Available Coping	
Parents Variable: Problems Experienced			
Formal thinking	0.20583*	Perception avoidance	0.08447
Judging quality in positive mode	0.28450*	Valid	0.07520
Instruction and cooperation	0.27857*	Involvement in other activities	0.02779

Solution of issue	0.33659**	Instinct discharge	0.14551
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P\*0.05; level of significance; P\*\*0.01 level of significance

r tab value at 5% level of significance = 0.2500; r tab value at 1% level of significance = 0.3248

The above table presents the Association between parent's variable on problems experienced and coping strategies of primary caretakers attending to children with cardiac problems. Out of the eight coping responses, the first four represents Available coping and the remaining four comes under Non available coping.

Under Available coping, the first area is formal thinking, which deals with handling the situation objectively, finding some personal meaning to the situation. In this area, the level of significance is 0.20583\*formal thinking in coping with the situation.

The second area under Available coping is judging quality in positive mode, which includes the caretaker's ability to see the good side of the situation and how the event could change one's life in a positive way. In this area, the level of significance is **0.28450\***

The third area under Available coping is an instruction and cooperation, which involves seeking support from relations, talking to a closed person about the problem and praying for instruction and cooperation. In this area, the level of significance is **0.27857\***

The fourth area under Available coping is solution of issue, which involves a plan of action, using alternate ways of solving problems and trying out new ways of confronting the problem. In this area, the level of significance is **0.33659\*\***

Under Non available coping, the first area is Perception avoidance i.e. ignoring the situation, refusal, hallucination, and expecting that problems would go run on their own. In this area, level of significance is 0.

The second area under Non available coping is valid i.e., acidifying the situation with all its intensity, realizing that one has no control over the problem and believing that outcome would be decided by fate. In this area, the level of significance is 0.07520.

The third area under Non available coping is involvement in other activities i.e., approaching new activities, finding new kinships and involving in more pleasure activities. In this area, the level of significance is 0.02779.

The fourth area under Non available coping is instinct discharge, which involves screaming or expression of strong emotion, showing the irritation of role capacity on others and maintaining distance from people in general. In this area, the level of significance is 0.14551 used non available coping instinct discharge technique.

## CONCLUSIONS

The data collected with respect to the Association between parent's variable on problems experienced and Coping Strategies of Primary Caretakers Attending to Children with Cardiac Problems revealed that parents used both available and non available coping styles. It reflected that, based on the problems experienced, parents was found to be positively correlated that is the level of significance is 0.20583\*,0.28450\*,0.27857\*,0.33659\*\* under available coping strategies indulging in Formal Thinking, Judging Quality In Positive Mode, Instruction and Cooperation, Solution of issue were found to be positively correlated under Formal Thinking, Judging Quality In Positive Mode, Instruction and Cooperation,

Solution of issue adopted by the primary caretakers attending to children with cardiac problems. The better the education, caretakers were using it for medical treatment and for providing medicines etc. for the sick child.

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